

laxskik general

There are two groups of laxskik in all tribes.

(1) gwunhut, from gidayanits and (2) the original laxskik. The gitlaxwiyip were not gwunhut but local laxskik. The two invited each other to their feasts as guests.

gitlaxwiyip: (1) xiyo'p (2) niasmo'tk (3) nias'awelp
 (4) gawale' (5) niasgamdzis (yilodza) was a descendant of one of the laxwiyip.

gwunhut: (1) ^{laxs'lo} spoxs (2) ^{laxs'lo} lino'se'nax (3) gidayanits (gitten)
 (4) nrostkudz'atk ^{gwunhut} ^{gidayanits} (5) niaskwun'e's gitsis

iyobans (gitwilgots) has the same myth as legex, from wudste, also lugol, also xa'iget

Their origin: legex originally comes from wudste

git'au'ye. He was accepted among the Tsimshian on account of his naxnax, he having the power to disappear at will.

He was one who had fought the people of naganaks for their naxnax. He then followed the naganaks naxnax to the gispaxlts, into which tribe the gitnaganaks had been adopted.

They let him use the ^{gitnaganaks} naxnax on condition that ~~they~~ he would remain with them. He did. When he used it was known

as t'axke'ksamaxe'
 all one sky

iyobans, lugol & xa'iget were followers of legex who come from same place shortly after, but only got as far as gitwilgots village of laxst's'olom to'adzap where they joined that tribe. ^{legex had gone on ahead to gitsalass to the village of the gispaxlts. They couldn't get up that far!}

The gitlaxwiyip were at first foreign to the Tsimshian; they come from the Nass. Most of the gispaxlts are to be traced to the nisge' and gitksan, that being partly this dialect (ga'namx). The 6 laxwiyip eagle groups are samlapwule'isk, or one group (nat'at). They are samlapwulna't'at "people of ones own group" ^{real own where group}

They help each other in potlatches, not large ^{help}, but in recognition that they are the same group.

As for gwunhut laxskik, were all one group, more or less

related to each other. All still contribute to each others potlatches (gottaxwiyip are invited as guests and receive presents). Spaxs had a ye'ok and niaskwudz'ok, niaskune's, gasexs, halo'ams, ^{thingit} gastu'ina, wixpe'la, ni'swa'amak, and xpilok contributed. They were all gwunhut.

~~legex, yo'ans, lugot, halitkwa (relationships not clear) among them close~~
were a group by themselves distinct from gwunhut and taxwiyip.

III The connection between legex and yo'ans, halitkwa, and lugot was unsettled [not close relationship] They claim a common ancestry but it was not clear. They were a group by themselves and distinct from gwunhut and taxwiyip. (Also says they don't form a group by themselves for potlatches. Contribute to ni'sawelp and any of the gottaxwiyip.) legex did not exactly go with the gottaxwiyip, but he held himself aloof in all relationships with other taxstiks.

As for legex's own potlatches, all the gispaxl'ots had to contribute - same with the other royal chiefs.

Summary - Matthew Johnson on laxskik

gitlaxwiyip

1. xiyo'p
2. niɔsmo'tk
3. niɔs'awɛlp.
4. gawɔ'ɛ'
5. niɔsqamdziɔ

More original, but ultimately from Tass or upriver. Consider themselves as related: sam lɔpwalnə't'at people of own group. Help each other in potlatches. Invite gwunhu:t as guests.

lɔgɛx
iyɔ'ɔns
xaiɔɛt
lɔg.ɔ'l

Relationships obscure, vaguely wɔ'tstə, don't form unit for potlatching (help gitlaxwiyip) but consider themselves a distinct group.

gwunhu:t

spɔxs
lɪnɔ'sɛ'nɔx
pɪdajanɪts
niɔstkuɔzɔ'tk
niɔskwunɛ's
qasɛxs
halo''lɔms
qastu''ɪnɔ
wɪxpɛ'la
niɔswa''amak
xpɪlɛk

More recent. All more or less related, contribute to each other's potlatches and invite above as guests.